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Davis' attorneys seek delay; evidence to be defined

United Press International
FORT WORTH, TEX. — Defense attorneys for murder defendant T. Cullen Davis claim they need more time to substantiate sensational but unsupported allegations of drug use and threats of violence involving the millionaire's estranged wife.

The attorneys plan to ask for the delay today at a hearing called to determine whether Davis should be released on bond.

Prosecutors will dispute the jurisdiction of the new request that Davis, 43, be allowed to make bond on the charges that he shot and killed his 12-year-old stepdaughter last August. Tarrant County Dist. Att. Tim Curry is expected to seek dismissal of the bond hearing request.

Prosecutors say Davis' first writ to be released on bond is still pending in federal court and, therefore, the latest request is without state jurisdiction.

Most of the day will involve legal verbing and nozness testimony may last several days.

Defense attorneys submitted a document at an earlier hearing that linked Priscilla Davis to a convicted drug offender. It describes her mansion as a haven for drug parties and questions her testimony that her husband was the gunman who killed her daughter and boyfriend.

Defense Attorney Richard Haynes said the affidavit was from David McCrory, an acquaintance of Cullen and Priscilla Davis since 1970. McCrory denied making the statement.

Pierce Allman, hired as a "media coordinator" by Davis, said the allegations contained in the writ did not represent an attempt to attract publicity. The defense lawyers were aware of the conflict in jurisdiction and resultant delay, he said.

"The defense attorneys very much want this bond hearing," Allman said. The defense team did not expect last week's mistrial declaration by State District Court Judge Tom Cave.

Haynes said news coverage of another bond hearing could negatively influence his preference to keep the case in Fort Worth.

Davis has been held without bond since last Aug. 20, which was 17 days after his stepdaughter, Andrea Wilborn, and estranged wife's lover, Stanford Farr, were shot and killed at Davis' mansion. The businessman built the 10,000-square-foot mansion during his six-year marriage to Mrs. Davis.

No suspects were arrested at the 180-acre mansion grounds. Davis was arrested a few hours later at the home of his girlfriend, Karen Master.

Small Marine completes basic

SAN DIEGO (UPI) — Marine Pfc. Jerry J. Pleban has made it as one of the "few good men," even if there is less of him than the Marine Corps is accustomed to getting.

Pleban has completed basic training and goes into the record book as "the littlest Marine."

At 4-feet-11, an inch under the minimum male enlistment height, it took a special waiver from the Corps commandant to allow Pleban to enlist.

His uniforms had to be tailored

down from the smallest size and he had trouble scaling walls and other obstacles on the infiltration course scaled to bigger men.

"I didn't quit," he said. "I didn't want anybody to say I got special favors because I was so small."



Battalion photo by Jim Crawley

View of Final Review

This clay rendering is the creation of Beutel Health Center's Dr. Duane Lagan. The statue, entitled "Final Review," was inspired by a picture of two senior cadets embracing at last year's Final Review. Lagan, who has been interested in different forms of art since college, plans to have a casting made of the statue.

High energy use could cause crisis

A California energy researcher has supplied some supporting evidence to President Carter's prediction of a national catastrophe in energy.

Dr. Donald Anthrop, acting head of economics and environmental studies professor at San Jose State University, said at Texas A&M University that Americans seem to be returning to traditional yearly increases of four to six per cent in energy consumption, especially with regard to electricity.

He called increasing electrification, especially by homeowners in the North and Northeast after the winter, the most serious problem America might face. Electrical generation wastes two-thirds of the energy produced, he said, suggesting the nation should be moving away from more electrical plants.

"If we return to the historical increases in energy consumption, America will have to make up the difference in increasingly expensive imports," warned Anthrop, here for graduate lecture.

He said natural gas production peaked in 1973 and that crude oil

production has been on the decline in the United States since 1970. Federal Energy Administration figures say we might be importing as much as 44 per cent of all petroleum by 1990.

Alaskan production should not be considered a petroleum panacea, Anthrop said. A U.S. Geological Survey report said that a major naval reserve field which was thought to contain 30 billion barrels of oil probably only holds one billion.

He said that shale oil production from the arid West and Southwest

would require overwhelmingly large amounts of water that would be lost to a segment of the country that needs it.

Anthrop said that efforts in conservation might include more efficient design of buildings.

He cited statistics from a year-long study in Minneapolis, Minn., showing that in offices, during 49 weeks of the year, energy was used to take heat out of structures. This came from lighting, equipment, machinery and human bodies. Only during three winter weeks did the energy actually go to increase heat inside the offices.

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